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From: Stevenson, Allan (DPH)
Sent: Monday, May 09, 2005 10:12 AM
To: Hanchett, James (DPH); Salem, Sharon (DPH)
Subject: FW: December 2004 - April 2005 Issues of Microgram Bulletin, and the 2004 Issue of Microgram Journal, Have Been Posted

-----Original Message-----

From: microgram_editor@mailsnare.net
[mailto:microgram_editor@mailsnare.net]
Sent: Monday, May 09, 2005 9:59 AM
To: Domestic April
Subject: December 2004 - April 2005 Issues of Microgram Bulletin, and the 2004 Issue of Microgram Journal, Have Been Posted

Greetings to All. This message is to notify you that the December 2004 - April 2005 Issues of Microgram Bulletin, and the 2004 Issue of Microgram Journal, have been posted at the following URL:

<http://www.dea.gov/programs/forensicsci/microgram/index.html>

Click on "Microgram Bulletins" or "Microgram Journals", respectively, to view the documents (.pdf and .html versions both provided).

Please promptly post this notice on your organization's intranet. In almost every case, you are the ONLY contact in your organization who is receiving this notice!

Third Notice - I am receiving increasing numbers of "bounce-back" emails warning that these notices were rejected due to attached viruses and/or spyware. In ALL such cases, the recipient was NOT on the Microgram subscription list - and in fact many/most have email addresses that suggest that they are members of the drug counterculture. This indicates that some of the individuals who are forwarding Microgram notices are either intentionally or unwittingly including malicious attachments.

In addition, the microgram_editor @ mailsnare.net address (extra spaces added by myself) is also being hijacked and used to send spam with viral attachments. Although this has been an ongoing problem, the frequency has increased dramatically since the posting of the July 2004 issue.

These emails are generally being sent from "Microgram", and the hyperlink comes up with the microgram_editor @ mailsnare.net address (extra spaces added by myself). Each contains an attachment containing a virus. Currently, the most common virus is one of the variants of the "beagle" virus.

Note that the sender name and viral attachment may be different, and of course can change at any time.

To repeat my standard warning, all users should be aware that Microgram notices will NEVER include any attachment, or any link other than:

<http://www.dea.gov/programs/forensicsci/microgram/index.html>

If you receive any email from this address - or any other pseudo-Microgram address - that contains any attachment, or any hyperlink other than the above link, it is spam and almost certainly contains a virus. It is suggested that you delete such emails immediately.

Again, all computer users are recommended to have and regularly use current Anti-Viral and Anti-Spyware programs, and also to have and use a Firewall program.

In an unrelated but equally important issue, note also that I am continuously receiving requests for Microgram subscriptions from individuals in offices that are already receiving these notifications, indicating that the current contact person is not forwarding the notices, nor printing off and circulating a hard copy. If you are unable or unwilling to forward the e-notices, or print and circulate hard copies, PLEASE recruit a new contact person for your office, and forward that person's name and email address to me at your earliest convenience. Thank you.

Standard Information Follows:

All issues of Microgram Bulletin starting from January 2003, and all issues of Microgram Journal (inaugurated in 2003) are posted at the same URL (click on the appropriate link).

Important!: If you click on the page and do NOT see the most recent issue, then your computer is probably reloading an older version of the webpage from your webpage cache. In such cases, click on "Refresh" or "Reload" in order to get the most current page.

Important!: If your ISP or organization is using anti-spamming filters, you will need to "whitelist" the microgram_editor @ mailsnare.net address - otherwise, you will not receive these notices. Note that email addresses that return rejection notices for three consecutive mass mailings are assumed to be bad, and will be deleted from the database. It is your responsibility to provide a valid email address, and to ensure that the microgram_editor @ mailsnare.net address is "whitelisted" if your organization has filters installed. If you stop receiving these notices, you may assume that your organization's ISP has been returning rejection notices to the Microgram mailsnare account.

To change your email address, change to a different recipient, or terminate your organization's subscription, please send a reply email to that effect, including your organization's full name and full surface mailing address.

Each issue of the Bulletin and Journal is posted in two formats. The first posting is in .pdf format, and exactly matches the printed, hard copy version. If you wish to maintain a hard copy library of Microgram Bulletin or Journal, or wish to circulate hard copies to your staff (necessary if they do not have access to the Internet themselves), then you should select this option. Note that you must have Adobe Acrobat Reader on your Desktop in order to download and print .pdf formatted files; also note that .pdf formatted versions are quite sizeable files, and will take some time to download, especially using dialup modems. If you do not have Adobe Acrobat Reader on your computer, you may download it at no charge from the Adobe website (<http://www.adobe.com>). Although Microgram Bulletins and Journals are provided in color, you may print them off using either a color or a standard black and white printer. If you wish to maintain a hard copy library of Microgram Bulletins or Journals that mimics the printed version, you should use a high quality color printer, select the two-sided copying option, and use higher quality, thicker, and preferably acid-free (archive quality) paper.

Note that Adobe Acrobat Reader Version 6 is now available for free downloading, and (among other features) allows you to search and copy .pdf formatted files. If you are using Version 5 or lower, you may wish to upgrade for these new features.

The second posting is in .html format. It does not match the printed, hard copy version, and each page may be horizontally clipped, vertically truncated, or both, if you attempt to print it. However, it is 508 (American with Disabilities Act) compliant, can be searched by standard web search techniques, will load faster, and will have slightly sharper and brighter text and images, versus the .pdf version. In addition, the .html version allows for somewhat easier electronic copying of text and/or images, should you have any need to do so.

Please note that the Office of Forensic Sciences is always interested in adding new law enforcement organizations to the Microgram subscription list. If you are aware of any law enforcement organization, and especially any forensic or crime laboratory, that is NOT receiving Microgram Bulletin or Microgram Journal, please forward their name, mailing address, and the email address of the Office Head to the Microgram Editor via reply email, and they will be added to the subscription list. Similarly, you may feel free to forward the email notifications to anyone you deem appropriate.

- Dr. Bob Klein, Microgram Editor

This Message is Authorized by Thomas J. Janovsky, Deputy Assistant Administrator, Office of Forensic Sciences.